

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing an optical recording medium, comprising:

a molding step of molding a disc-like shaped substrate including an information recording face at least on one side;

a light transmitting layer formation step of forming a light transmitting layer thinner than the substrate on the information recording face;

a cutting step of forming a circular cut in the light transmitting layer; and

a punching step of punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut by a punching tool to form center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate.

6. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 5, wherein

the cut in the light transmitting layer is formed at a larger diameter than an inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate, and the area inside the cut is pressurized in a thickness direction by the punching tool to divide the light transmitting layer at the cut and to punch the light transmitting layer and the substrate, thereby forming the center hole at a larger inner diameter than that of the center hole in the substrate in the light transmitting layer.

7. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein

a circular protrusion at a larger outer diameter than the inner diameter of the center hole in the substrate is formed on the information recording face at the molding step, the cut is formed in the light transmitting layer along an outer side of an outer circumference of the

circular protrusion, and the substrate is punched by the punching tool to leave an outer periphery of the circular protrusion to form an annular protrusion around the center hole in the substrate as well as to form the center hole having a larger inner diameter than an outer diameter of the annular protrusion in the light transmitting layer.

8. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 5, wherein

a resin having fluidity is supplied to the vicinity of a center of the substrate while the substrate is rotated to allow the resin to flow outward in a radial direction by centrifugal force for spread, thereby forming the light transmitting layer at the light transmitting layer formation step.

9. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein

a resin having fluidity is supplied to the vicinity of a center of the substrate while the substrate is rotated to allow the resin to flow outward in a radial direction by centrifugal force for spread, thereby forming the light transmitting layer at the light transmitting layer formation step.

10. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 7, wherein

a resin having fluidity is supplied to the vicinity of a center of the substrate while the substrate is rotated to allow the resin to flow outward in a radial direction by centrifugal force for spread, thereby forming the light transmitting layer at the light transmitting layer formation step.

11. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 8, wherein

the light transmitting layer is made of a radiation curable resin, a radiation ray is radiated so that the light transmitting layer is semi-cured at the light transmitting layer formation step, and a reirradiation step of radiating a radiation ray again to the semi-cured light transmitting layer so as to completely cure the light transmitting layer is provided after the cutting step.

12. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 9, wherein

the light transmitting layer is made of a radiation curable resin, a radiation ray is radiated so that the light transmitting layer is semi-cured at the light transmitting layer formation step, and a reirradiation step of radiating a radiation ray again to the semi-cured light transmitting layer so as to completely cure the light transmitting layer is provided after the cutting step.

13. (Original) The method for manufacturing an optical recording medium according to claim 10, wherein

the light transmitting layer is made of a radiation curable resin, a radiation ray is radiated so that the light transmitting layer is semi-cured at the light transmitting layer formation step, and a reirradiation step of radiating a radiation ray again to the semi-cured light transmitting layer so as to completely cure the light transmitting layer is provided after the cutting step.

14. (Previously Presented) A manufacturing device of an optical recording medium, comprising:

cutting device for forming a circular cut in a light transmitting layer of a semifinished product of an optical recording medium, the optical recording medium including a disc-like shaped substrate having an information recording face at least on one side and the light transmitting layer thinner than the substrate on the information recording face; and

punching device for punching out at least a part of an area inside the circular cut by a punching tool to form center holes in the light transmitting layer and the substrate.

15. (Canceled)